

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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STATE RESOURCES SECRETARY ANNOUNCES \$23 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR PARKS, OPEN SPACE ALONG LOS ANGELES AND SAN GABRIEL RIVERS

Agency Delivers on Vision for Greener Communities in Los Angeles County

SACRAMENTO— Resources Secretary Mary D. Nichols today announced \$23.28 million in State grants for 15 projects to improve parks, recreation, trails and provide habitat and open space in the Los Angeles River Parkway and for the San Gabriel River Watershed, San Gabriel Mountains and Lower Los Angeles River.

“Millions of families living in Los Angeles County will benefit from these recreational projects and restoration programs,” said Secretary Nichols. “From greenbelts to public access, these projects fulfill the promise of Proposition 12, and mark another step forward in bringing parks and green spaces to the heart of California’s urban areas.”

The grants, approved by the Resources Secretary, come from voter-approved park bond Proposition 12 and go to local agencies. These two grant programs were developed with the assistance of a technical review committee of biologists, ecologists; recreation experts and land use planners, and with input from local agencies throughout the geographic region covered by the programs. Projects were selected through a competitive process with the technical review committee providing recommendations to the Secretary. The following is a list of projects:

**(Downtown Los Angeles) Mountains and Recreation Conservancy Authority (MRCA) -
Artesian Park Acquisition – \$1,648,000**

Acquire approximately 3 acres for use as a nature park located on the east bank of the Arroyo Seco Channel to create a green network of multi-modal trails, large parks and open space along the Los Angeles River and provide access to the Arroyo Seco Bikeway.

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RESOURCES AGENCY GRANTS -2-2-2-2-2

City of Pico Rivera - Paseo del Rio at Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds Improvements – \$1,161,000

Plant native vegetation, build trail and provide public access to the 570-acre Coastal Spreading Grounds along the Rio Hondo Channel, and develop a trail to provide a link to the L.A. River Regional Bicycle Trail.

City of Pico Rivera - Paseo del Rio at San Gabriel Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds Improvements – \$291,400

Plant native vegetation and provide public access and bicycling trails to the 128-acre Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds along the San Gabriel River.

City of Montebello - Montebello Trail Improvements - \$1,000,000

Trail and trailhead improvements along the Rio Hondo Channel with interpretive signage, bicycle racks, drinking fountain, and providing new bicycle and equestrian linkages and picnic facilities

City of Bellflower - Bellflower Riverview Park Improvements — \$2,970,871

Develop 15 acres of land adjacent to the west side of the San Gabriel River into a regional park, remove a concrete box channel and permit water to flow through the a more natural stream course, construct pedestrian and bike trails, picnic area, and kiosk for San Gabriel River Trail and West Branch Bikeway.

City of Bell - Los Angeles River Bikeway Improvements — \$200,000

Plant native vegetation for erosion control along bike path along the Los Angeles River.

(Compton Creek) County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation - Compton Creek County Bikeway Improvements - \$153,500

Plant native trees along a two-mile stretch of along Compton Creek and convert current service road into a bike/pedestrian trail.

City of Azusa - Azusa River Wilderness Park Acquisition - \$2,017,000

Acquire 27 acres at the north end of the San Gabriel River to become part of an 88-acre park and provide access to the San Gabriel River Regional Bike Path.

City of Monrovia - Riparian Habitat Acquisition – \$3,600,000

Acquire approximately 149 acres of riparian habitat in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, protect sensitive habitat from development and provide access to Monrovia Canyon Park, a large regional nature park with an extensive trail system and interpretive-educational center.

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RESOURCES AGENCY GRANTS –2-2-2-2-2

City of West Covina - Heritage Garden Park Improvements - \$410,200

Construct a pedestrian trail approximately 1.5 miles long with interpretive signage, picnic area and footbridge at Heritage Garden Park, which is approximately 14 acres of naturally sloping hillside with groves of California black walnuts, oaks, a year-round stream, a tributary to the San Gabriel River.

Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation - Whittier Narrows Trail Improvements - \$245,800

Develop a pedestrian/bike trail to connect the Whittier Narrows Regional Park to the San Gabriel River Channel and the river trail network, plant natural vegetation, informational kiosks, establish riparian habitat, and provide parking.

Los Angeles County Public Works - Tujunga Wash Restoration – \$1,900,000 -

Plant native vegetation and provide public access to Tujunga Wash area and develop a pedestrian path, rest areas, install irrigation and interpretive signage.

City of Calabasas - Headwater Corners Acquisition and Improvements - \$876,000

Acquire and restore 7.7 acres of riparian habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains.

City of Santa Clarita - Lost Canyon River Park Acquisition - \$765,000

Acquire four parcels totaling approximately 92 acres along the Santa Clara River for additional park space to become the easternmost trailhead and river park.

City of Long Beach - River Tidal Lands Acquisition - \$6,048,900

Acquire 7.27 acres along the lower Los Angeles River to link Cesar Chavez Park and Drake Park and form a greenway along the river as part of a larger development plan and create a greenway with coastal wetland areas, provide open space and habitat, and pedestrian and bike trails.

For additional information on the grant process, please go to the Resources Agency web site: <http://www.resources.ca.gov/bond/>

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